

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 006675
ORIGIN AF-10

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DRAFTED BY AF/P:BARUSSELL:MR
APPROVED BY AF/P:BARUSSELL
-----110419 102336Z /72

O 102302Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 006675

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING JANUARY 10

FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM THE DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING
JANUARY 10, 1978:

Q: AN ANSWER WAS HANDED OUT YESTERDAY ON THE HORN OF AFRICA
QUESTION. IT SPOKE ABOUT THE INTENTION OF THE UNITED
STATES, IN COOPERATION WITH OTHER STATES, TO TRY TO CONTAIN
THE FIGHTING IN THE HORN OF AFRICA. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING
FURTHER ON WHAT STEPS, WHAT NATIONS?

A: NO, I DON'T HAVE ANY MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON THAT.
THE EFFORT IS CONTINUING THROUGH THE OAU, BUT I HAVE NOTHING
TO OFFER IN THE WAY OF NEW ACTIVITY BY ANY OF THE
PARTIES TOWARD MEDIATION. LET ME JUST LOOK HERE, BUT I'M
SURE NOT.

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Q: DOES IT HAVE ANY RELATION AT ALL TO THE VISIT OF THE
ETHIOPIAN REPRESENTATIVE LAST WEEK WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY
MOOSE?

A: I'M SURE, OBVIOUSLY, THE SUBJECT WAS DISCUSSED, BOTH OUR
BILATERAL RELATIONS AND THE QUESTIONS OF THE HORN. I DON'T

KNOW, MURREY, WHAT THEY TALKED ABOUT, SPECIFICALLY.

Q: THE PRESIDENT AND THE SHAH HAVING MADE SO MUCH OF AN ISSUE OF THIS AT TEHERAN, I WOULD THINK THE DEPARTMENT WOULD WANT TO TRY TO GET SOME EXPLANATION AS TO WHAT IT IS DOING IN THE HORN OF AFRICA, IF THIS IS A MATTER OF SUCH LARGE CONCERN TO THE ADMINISTRATION.

A: IT IS A MATTER OF CONCERN. INsofar AS WHAT WE'RE DOING, IT RANGES ACROSS THE BOARD OF DIPLOMATIC CONTACTS. I DON'T HAVE SOMETHING FOR YOU, MURREY, I'LL BE GLAD TO TAKE THE QUESTION AND SEE IF I CAN GET YOU SOME SORT OF OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON WHAT WE'RE DOING.

Q: THANK YOU. VANCE

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